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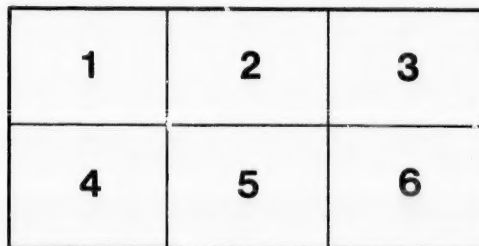
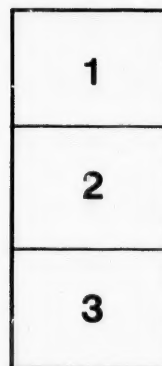
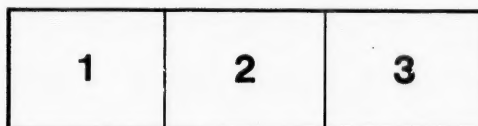
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TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

GEORGE R. R. COCKBURN.

OCTOBER 1857.

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Provincial Secretary's Office C. W.
7th 1857 of 1857

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TO THE HONOURABLE
THE SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

GENTLEMEN,

I BEG most respectfully to offer myself as a candidate for the vacant Mastership of the English Language and Literature in Upper Canada College, Toronto, and to submit a few Testimonials of my character and fitness to discharge its most important duties.

From a perusal of the accompanying Testimonials you will learn that, after having completed my studies at the High School, under the present Rector, Dr Schmitz, I went through the full literary curriculum of four years at the University of Edinburgh, where I gained the highest honours.

I was then appointed one of the Classical and English Masters in Merchiston Castle School, where I remained two years, when I became Senior English and Classical Master in Montgreenan Academy.

This post I held till August 1856, when I commenced a tour on the Continent, from which I have just returned.

During the last fourteen months I have visited almost every country in Europe, and made myself acquainted with the various methods of instruction adopted in France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, &c.

Allow me to add that my life has been spent in studying the history and structure of our own and other languages, and that to do so thoroughly, I have made a minute study of the classical tongues, and of the most important of the languages of modern Europe; as I have always been convinced, that it was only by treating the English language as a branch of the great Indo-Germanic family, and not from an isolated point of view, that any positive results could be obtained.

Should you honour me by your choice, you may rest assured that I shall do my utmost, not only to maintain the present high educational position of Upper Canada College, but to extend that reputation still further.

I have the honour to be,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient servant,

GEORGE R. R. COCKBURN.

Edinburgh, October 23, 1857.

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TESTIMONIALS.

No. I.

From **LEONHARD SCHMITZ, Esq., Phil. D., LL.D., F.R.S.E.,**

Rector of the High School of Edinburgh, Editor of The Classical Museum, Niebuhr's Lectures, Schmitz and Zumpt's Series of Latin Classics, Philadelphia; Author of Handbook of Ancient History, &c., &c., &c.

High School of Edinburgh.

per 29, 1857.

UNDERSTANDING that Mr GEORGE R. intends to
offer himself as a candidate for the office of al Master
in Upper Canada College, Toronto, I avail myself of the greatest
pleasure, of the opportunity of stating my opinion in regard to the
qualifications he possesses for such an office.

Ever since Mr Cockburn completed his curriculum at the High School and University of Edinburgh, in both of which institutions he gained the highest distinctions for scholarship, he has been most actively and successfully engaged as a Classical and English Teacher, first in Merchiston Castle Academy, and afterwards for several years in Montgreenan House Academy; and I know that in both these institutions he has been the means of raising learning and scholarship to a point which had been quite unknown before. During the whole of last year, he has been engaged as travelling tutor to a young gentleman from Canada, in which capacity he has visited nearly all the countries of Europe, and made himself thoroughly

conversant with the languages of Germany, France, and Italy—languages which he had well studied before he entered upon his travels.

Mr Cockburn is not an ordinary scholar, but a thorough philologist—possessing a good insight into the structure, the relations, and affinities subsisting between the ancient and modern languages of Europe. He thoroughly understands the art of communicating to young people information in a clear and lucid manner, and of inciting their minds to independent activity. He unites, in short, in an eminent degree, all the qualities—extensive knowledge, experience, and skill—that ought to recommend a man who proposes to devote himself to the higher departments of education; and I have no hesitation in saying, that if the College at Toronto succeeds in securing the services of Mr Cockburn, it ought to consider itself most singularly fortunate.

L. SCHMITZ, Phil. D., LL.D., F.R.S.E.,
Rector of the High School of Edinburgh.

No. II.

From EDWARD KIRKPATRICK, Esq., M.A., Oxon.,

Late Interim Professor of Greek in the University of Edinburgh; Author of The Historically Received Conception of the University, with Special Reference to Oxford, &c.

I HAVE no ordinary pleasure in adding my testimony, with reference to Mr COCKBURN's attainments, to the assurances which he will receive from those whose expression of opinion may of itself be regarded as conclusive. My acquaintance with Mr Cockburn commenced in 1852, during the period of my connection with the Greek Class of the University of Edinburgh. I had then frequent occasion to observe the intelligence, zeal, and eminent success with which he devoted himself to the branch of classical study which it was my

province to conduct. His assiduity and interest in this subject were so marked, that I had soon no hesitation in regarding him as one of the most promising students of the class; and the opinion then formed of his application and capacity was abundantly borne out by the papers sent in by him in the examination at the close of the University session.

Since the period above mentioned, I have personally seen but little of Mr Cockburn, in consequence of the cessation of my connection with the University, and his own subsequent departure from Edinburgh. I have, however, repeatedly heard him spoken of; and on every occasion on which his name was mentioned, it was coupled with the very highest commendation of his ability, personal character, and conscientious discharge of duty. I have been again and again assured that the testimonials with which I had furnished him, in applying for the situations he succeeded in obtaining, had been, in every particular, most signally verified, and that his superiors had found abundant reason to congratulate themselves upon their good fortune in securing the devotion of so able and efficient an instructor.

Mr Cockburn would, I am thoroughly convinced, be found peculiarly well-qualified to discharge the duties of a higher teacher in a collegiate school, for which office I understand that he is now a candidate. His tastes, and the decided bias of his powers of mind, have led him to embrace the career of a scholar and man of learning. With this object, he has most judiciously directed his attention in the first place to the mastery of the languages and literature of those ancient nations which contain the roots of all European culture, and whose dominant ideas have exercised so powerful and abiding an influence upon the civilization of all subsequent times. He has not only been enabled to obtain the full benefits of the mental discipline, and other manifold advantages, arising from a course of classical study carried out with a degree of completeness and thoroughness rarely seen at the present day in Scotland, but, as a pupil of Dr Schmitz, he has been initiated into those principles of higher criticism and scientific philology, which, though originally brought to light with reference to the history and monuments of the two great nations of antiquity, are in themselves susceptible of the widest application. Upon a sound basis of classical study, Mr

Cockburn has further added a mass of extensive and varied acquirements, and the knowledge derived from an acquaintance with the most copious and important of modern languages. What I am convinced, however, would ensure on the part of Mr Cockburn a usefulness as a teacher of higher learning, far beyond that afforded by any attainment, however comprehensive, is the spirit and temper by which he has hitherto been actuated, and which has mainly contributed to render his past career so honourably successful. The thirst for knowledge, and quiet but steadfast desire for mental improvement, which he has all along exhibited, and the fruits of which endeavour are so unmistakeably apparent in the change for the better by which all who formerly knew him cannot fail to be impressed, must assuredly exercise a most salutary influence in awakening corresponding aims and tendencies in the readily receptive minds of the young. His pupils will derive from his teaching the stores of positive knowledge communicated by a practised instructor, while they will have before them a man of extensive general information, and one whose personal example will suggest the soundest lessons with reference to the spirit and principles by which their own course in life should be regulated.

EDWARD KIRKPATRICK, M.A.,

Oxon.

Edinburgh, October 6, 1857.

No. III.

From the late JOHN WILSON, Esq.

Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, Author of Noctes Ambrosianæ, Recreations of Christopher North, &c. &c.

Edinburgh College, April 8, 1851.

MR COCKBURN was an excellent student, and I have a high opinion of his abilities.

JOHN WILSON.

No. IV.

From the Rev. R. J. BROWN, D.D.

Professor of Greek in Marischal College and University, Aberdeen.

Aberdeen, September 25, 1857.

It is now several years since I became acquainted with Mr GEORGE COCKBURN. I formed a very favourable opinion of his abilities, and of his attainments as a classical scholar. Since that time, he has had larger experience as a teacher in two of the principal Schools of Scotland; and, I have reason to believe, has acquitted himself in a manner the most creditable both to his scholarship and to his capacity for communicating information to young minds. Mr Cockburn has travelled extensively over Europe, and had excellent opportunities of becoming acquainted with some of its leading languages. From his habits of study and love of general literature, he has, I doubt not, applied himself diligently to the study of the language and literature of Britain, so that I should regard him as highly qualified for the office to which he aspires, under the Senate of the University of Toronto.

R. J. BROWN, D.D.

No. V.

From THOMAS R. WILSON, Esq.

Principal of Montgreenan Academy.

Montgreenan, Kilwinning, N.B.

September 24, 1857.

UNDERSTANDING that Mr GEORGE R. R. COCKBURN is a candidate for the English mastership in the Upper Canada College, Toronto, it gives me great pleasure to bear my humble testimony to the high

qualifications which he possesses for that office. Mr Cockburn conducted the Classical department in this Academy and the highest English Classes for about three years with singular success. He is most intimately acquainted with the history and development of the English language. Having made the Classics the study of his life, and being able to speak and write French and German with the greatest fluency, and understanding the Italian and other languages; he is able to compare the English language with the Greek, Latin, French, and other tongues, with the history of which he is quite familiar. In addition to the unusual amount of knowledge which he possesses, and the accuracy of his scholarship, which others, I have no doubt, who are better able, will attest, Mr Cockburn possesses all the essential elements of a successful instructor. Of his moral and religious character, I formed a very high opinion, and remember with pleasure his stay under this roof. He teaches with great enthusiasm, and expresses himself with great clearness and force, and, if only an opportunity is afforded him, such as this appointment offers, he cannot fail to advance the interests of education, and attain to the highest eminence in the walks of literature.

THOMAS R. WILSON.

Headmaster of Montpelier School

No. VI.

From JOHN DALGLEISH, Esq.,

President of the Academy.

The Grange House, Edinburgh.

October 6, 1857.

I HAVE KNOWN MR GEORGE R. R. COCKBURN for many years, first as a pupil, and subsequently as an intelligent and energetic teacher; and I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to his admirable

fitness for the profession to which he has devoted himself. Possessed of good natural talents, he has cultivated these with marked success, both at the High School and the University of this city. More recently Mr Cockburn has enjoyed the additional advantages of extensive travel, having visited, during the last fourteen months, most of the countries of Europe, and made himself master of the languages of several of them. Mr Cockburn's acquaintance with the classics is, I believe, extensive and minute; and this, combined with his knowledge of modern languages, gives him a rare advantage in teaching the structure and history of the English language.

Understanding that Mr Cockburn is at present an applicant for a principal English mastership in a Canadian school, I have much pleasure in stating that his acquirements seem to me to be of the very nature to qualify him in a high degree for such a position. He is well informed on general subjects; is well read in English literature; and, in communicating with his pupils, he is able to combine the greatest cordiality of manner with the utmost strictness in matters of discipline. Mr Cockburn's address and conversation are those of a man who has mixed in good society. In every respect I consider Mr Cockburn admirably suited for the office he at present aspires to, and I cordially wish him success in his application.

JOHN DALGLEISH.

No. VII.

From the late Rev. **WILLIAM STEVEN, D.D.**,

Minister of Trinity College Parish Church, Edinburgh, late House Governor of George Heriot's Hospital, and Inspector of the Heriot Foundation Schools, Author of History of the High School, &c.

Edinburgh, August 23, 1852.

MR GEORGE RALPH RICHARDSON COCKBURN, has been well known to me for several years; and I entertain a very high opinion of his talents and worth. I understand that it is his intention to offer himself as a candidate for the recently vacated office of *non-resident*

classical master in connection with George Watson's Hospital.* I regard Mr Cockburn as well qualified for such an appointment. He eminently distinguished himself in the University of Edinburgh last session, having, in competition with not a few able students, for three consecutive days, carried off the Straton prize in the highest Greek class.

WM. STEVEN, D.D.

No. VIII.

From the Rev. JAMES BLACKWOOD, M.A.,

Assistant Minister in the Parish of Ceres.

Ceres, September 1857.

MY DEAR SIR,—It would be unbecoming on my part were I to bear testimony in your favour, in any other form than that of a letter. In this way, of course, I cannot express myself so strongly as I might otherwise do; but you and others will thus have the satisfaction of knowing that I have neither indulged in flattery, nor been guided by fancy.

So far as your personal character is concerned, there can be few among your acquaintances better qualified to speak than I am. During a period of two years, we sat at the same table, slept under the same roof, and discharged our duties in adjoining class rooms. Our intimacy, begun then, soon turned into friendship; and that friendship has continued to ripen and to deepen up to the present day. I have no small pleasure in being now able to state that, among my most valued friends, there is not one whom I more regard and esteem,—not one in whose society I have more pleasure,—not one whose sympathies are deeper, whose aspirations are nobler, whose demeanour is more thoroughly that of a gentleman.

As to your natural adaptation for teaching, I can also speak. Few possess the zeal and energy which you do: and no one can be more convinced than you are, that the true object of education is to develop the intellect by discipline of the mental powers,—to give

* Mr C. withdrew his application for the above office, on being appointed one of the Classical and English Masters in Merchiston Castle School.

strength of purpose and self-command. Skill for such teaching cannot be acquired by any experience, however long; it cannot be acquired by rule or formula: but it is yours by nature. The handsome testimonials which you have received from the pupils of the institution in which you have taught are, I conceive, a sufficient proof that you have not allowed this skill to lie dormant.

Among your friends I know there are others who, because of their greater learning, are more entitled to speak of your scholarship than I am. But I can state this—that the knowledge of your acquirements has often spurred myself on to severer study,—that you have often displayed a rare acuteness in discovering motives, and analyzing character,—and that your conversation always manifested great familiarity with the history of the lives of eminent men, and the writings of great authors, especially those of our own country.

In short, when I consider the various languages with which you are conversant,—your evinced natural adaptation for teaching,—your honest nature, and dignified affable demeanour, I am sure that if you be appointed to the situation for which you now present yourself, the appointment will never be regretted.

I shall have real pleasure in hearing from you that you have been successful: and yet that pleasure will not be unmingled with pain. Were it not selfish, I would advise you to remain at home that I might still enjoy your society. I am,

MY DEAR SIR,

Yours always,

JAMES BLACKWOOD, M.A.,
Assistant Minister in the Parish of Ceres.

No. IX.

From ARCHIBALD MORRISON, Esq., M.A.,
Principal of Glasgow Collegiate School.

*Glasgow Collegiate School,
October 3, 1857.*

I HAVE great pleasure in bearing testimony to the high character, distinguished talents, and extensive acquirements of Mr GEORGE R.

R. COCKBURN. I believe him to be pre-eminently fitted by natural predilection, education, and experience of an unusually diversified character, for the vacant English Mastership in Upper Canada College, Toronto. Mr Cockburn was *facile princeps* in the highest classical department at the University. He writes and speaks the French and German languages with fluency, and he is also familiar with Italian. He was a most able and successful English and Classical Master at Merchiston Castle, and subsequently occupied the position of Head Classical and English Master at Montgreenan, and I know that his eminent talents as an instructor of youth were fully appreciated by the Principals of these schools.

Comparative philology is Mr Cockburn's favourite study, and he possesses, in a remarkable degree, the *kind* and the *measure* of learning requisite for the cultivation of this important and difficult science. He has all along stood deservedly high in the estimation of leading educators in Edinburgh,—among whom is the distinguished Rector of the High School,—and I feel confident that, if he be appointed to the vacant situation in Upper Canada College, he will discharge its onerous duties in a manner which will fully justify the choice of the Senate of the University, and realize the very high anticipations of his numerous friends in Scotland, regarding his future eminence and usefulness.

ARCHIBALD MORRISON, M.A.,
Head Master.

No. X.

From the Rev. WILLIAM PINKERTON,
Minister, Kilwinning.

Free Church Manse, Kilwinning,
October 4, 1857.

I HAVE very great pleasure in bearing my testimony to the ability and accomplishments of Mr GEORGE R. R. COCKBURN as a Teacher.

I have frequently visited Montgreenan Establishment in which Mr Cockburn taught, with great success, for some time, and I always came away impressed with his high qualifications.

I feel assured that Mr Cockburn will signalize himself as a teacher, in the very highest walks of Classical and English literature.

WILLIAM PINKERTON,
Minister of the Gospel.

No. XI.

From ROBERT THOMSON, Esq., M.A.,
Late Senior Classical Master in Montgreenan Academy

*Longford Castle, Salisbury,
September 30, 1857.*

MR GEORGE R. R. COCKBURN has been intimately known to me during the last seven years. We studied together at the High School and University of Edinburgh, and were afterwards colleagues for nine months in Montgreenan School. During the period of our friendship, Mr Cockburn has been a most assiduous student of classics, English history and literature, and modern languages. In Dr Schmitz's class he distinguished himself highly, and at the University established for himself a classical reputation by gaining, against many competitors, the Straton prize in the highest Greek class.

At Montgreenan he devoted his attention to English as zealously as he had previously at the University studied classics. But with an insatiable thirst after knowledge, he wished to become thoroughly acquainted with the modern languages. He accordingly left Montgreenan, and has since travelled over almost all Europe, mastered French and German, and acquired a fair knowledge of Italian. Even, however, before his travels, he was in the habit of showing to his pupils at Montgreenan, in a most clear and satisfactory manner, the connection in which English stands to Latin, Greek, French,

and German. He taught English history and literature generally without a text-book, and in such a way, as to show that his knowledge of both subjects was extremely extensive and accurate. In teaching, he displayed a great command over his own language, and infused a high enthusiasm into the minds of his pupils. His commanding appearance, his attainments and determined manner, enabled him to maintain his classes in perfect order. It is no exaggeration to state that, the whole establishment, consisting both of masters and boys, regarded Mr Cockburn with respect and admiration. From a thorough acquaintance with his character and attainments, I feel confident that he would, with great ability and conscientiousness, discharge the duties connected with the vacant Mastership at Toronto.

ROBERT THOMSON, M.A.,
Edinburgh.

No. XII.

From DAVID FOGO, Esq., M.A.,
Late Classical Master in Merchiston Castle School, and

WILLIAM MORRISON, Esq., M.A.,
Senior Classical Master in Merchiston Castle School.

Edinburgh, October 9, 1857.

WE embrace with pleasure this opportunity of testifying to the many abilities and accomplishments of our friend, Mr GEORGE R. R. COCKBURN. What has been already said by able and competent judges in his favour, a long and intimate acquaintance enables us sincerely to confirm. We were associated for some years in the arduous duties of a well known school in this country, and had often to recognise the ability and success with which he conducted the department entrusted to his care. Since that time he has had much experience as a teacher, and his natural tact and power in the communication of knowledge have been cultivated and developed to the highest degree.

Our information as to his scholarship is derived from our private as well as official connection. It is sufficient to say, that Mr Cockburn's acquaintance with the Greek and Latin tongues is very extensive (and on this point, his other testimonials will leave no doubt), and that he speaks with fluency both the French and German languages. He is a lover of history and political science, and his reading in general literature is co-extensive with the best ancient and modern authors.

His mind has been refined and informed by travel; and, in fine, we believe that few men will be found who combine Mr Cockburn's intellectual abilities and manifold accomplishments, and would fill with so much honour and distinction, the Mastership of the English Language and Literature in Upper Canada College, Toronto.

DAVID FOGO, M.A.

WILLIAM MORRISON, M.A.

No. XIII.

From the Rev. GEORGE R. HOSKINS, M.A.,
Pemb. Coll., Oxford, Curate of Cockermouth.

*Higham, near Cockermouth,
October 10, 1857.*

HAVING known Mr GEORGE COCKBURN from his early boyhood, it gives me great pleasure to bear testimony to his high and consistent character.

His abilities need no other testimonial than the high University honours he so creditably gained.

His extensive travels, and acquaintance with foreign languages, make him a most agreeable and well informed companion.

I have every confidence that he will most satisfactorily discharge any professional duties which he may undertake.

G. R. HOSKINS, M.A.,
*Pem. Coll., Oxford,
Curate of Cockermouth.*

No. XIV.

From Dr A. W. ZUMPT,

Regius Professor in Berlin, Author of several most learned Works, and appointed by the Royal Academy of Berlin to edit the Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum.

I HAD twice the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Mr GEORGE R. R. COCKBURN—first at Berlin, whither he had travelled to prosecute his studies, and afterwards at Dresden, where we studied Art together.

I have found in him a gentleman deeply versed in our language and literature, and well skilled in all the branches of classical learning. His conversation showed a deep interest in all that concerned the art of instruction, as well as a desire of further experience in it. I consider him peculiarly qualified as a teacher of the English language and literature, since he possesses an accurate knowledge of the sources of both the Latin and German languages, out of which the English has sprung, and is thus able to trace the various phenomena of that language to their origin.

His excellent general education, and his accurate acquaintance with the literature of Europe, qualify him for literary criticism.

A. W. ZUMPT,

Regius Professor in Berlin.

No. XV.

From JOHN KERR, Esq., M.A.,

Trin. Coll., Camb.

Trin. Coll., Camb., September 29, 1857.

I HAVE great pleasure in bearing testimony to the merits of Mr GEORGE COCKBURN, whose intimate acquaintance I have now enjoyed for upwards of five years. From what I know of his excellent qua-

ifications as a scholar and teacher, I feel assured that his appointment to the vacancy in Upper Canada College, Toronto, for which he is now a candidate, would be a most satisfactory one to the directors of that Institution. His success at the High School and University of Edinburgh is a sufficient guarantee for that accurate acquaintance with the ancient languages without which a sound knowledge of our own is scarcely possible; while this object has been still further secured by his study of modern languages in France, Germany, and Italy.

His experience and success in teaching, in some of the best schools in this country, to which his colleagues and the principals of those establishments will bear willing testimony, are qualifications to the value of which the directors of Toronto College cannot be insensible. I have only to add that his manners are very pleasing, and such as at once to engage the attention, and secure the obedience and respect of his pupils.

JOHN KERR, M.A.,
Trin. Coll., Camb.